

ARIZONA NEWS RELEASE

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- For Immediate Release -

ARIZONA UPLAND COTTON PRODUCTION UNCHANGED

Phoenix – Arizona's upland cotton harvested acreage is estimated at 239,000 acres, slightly higher than a year ago. As of September 1, yield is forecast at 1,406 pounds per acre, 52 pounds less than the record high yield in 2004. Production is forecast at 700,000 bales, unchanged from last month but down 3 percent from last year. Cotton bolls have opened on about half of the acreage, considerably behind the 5-year average of 73 percent. Cotton condition is mostly good.

American-Pima cotton harvested area, at 4,000 acres, is 1,000 acres more than last year's 3,000 acres. Due to the increased acres, production is expected to total 8,000 bales. Pima yield, expected at 960 pounds per acre, is the same as last month but up 64 pounds from a year ago. All cotton production is forecast at 708,000 bales, 3 percent lower than the previous year.

All cotton production is forecast at 22.3 million 480-pound bales, up 5 percent from the August forecast but 4 percent below last year's production. Yield is expected to average 782 pounds per acre, 34 pounds above last month. If realized, both the yield and production will be the second highest on record. The September harvested area is expected to total 13.7 million acres, up less than 1 percent from August and 5 percent above 2004. Producers in the Great Plains, California, Georgia, New Mexico, and Louisiana are expecting higher yields than last month. Yield expectations in Texas increased due to excellent growing conditions in the High Plains area.

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